

SENATE BILL 1772

By Herron

AN ACT to amend Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 40,
Chapter 38, Part 3, relative to the rights of victims
of crime.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE:

SECTION 1. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 40-38-302, is amended by deleting subdivision (2) in its entirety and substituting instead the following:

(2) "Critical stages of the criminal justice process" are:

(A) Bond hearings or bond reduction hearings if hearing from the victim is deemed relevant by the appropriate district attorney general;

(B) Any hearing on a motion to dismiss or on a plea agreement requiring approval by the trial court;

(C) The defendant's sentencing hearing;

(D) Any hearing at which the issue of whether the defendant should pay restitution or the amount of restitution that should be paid is discussed;

(E) Any parole hearing at which the defendant's release on parole will be discussed or determined;

(F) Any other hearing that proposes a final disposition of the case; and

(G) Any hearing on a motion to continue or any other similar hearing that may adversely impact a victim's right to a speedy trial or disposition and a prompt and final conclusion of the case under Art. I, § 35 (6).

SECTION 2. This act shall take effect July 1, 2009, the public welfare requiring it.